has been received from the State of Orissa in the Ministry of Food. However, on the request made by the State Government during March, 1994, the allocation of wheat to Orissa was raised from 30,000 MTs to 35,000 MTs per month from May, 1994 to April, 1995.

Charges for Stockpile of Foodgrains with FCI

2057. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the carrying cost, including cost of storage and other charges, on account of the stockpile of foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India in 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the total subsidy on account of foodgrains released for public distribution through the Food Corporation during the three years indicated above; and

(c) whether Government, instead of adding to the stockpile, would consider releasing through the public distribution system larger quantities of grains than in the past at subsidised rates to poorer consumers?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The carrying cost, including cost of storage and other charges incurred by Food Corporation of India for maintenance of buffer stock of foodgrains in 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as under:—

Year	Rs./Crores
1992-93	450.69
1993-94	1245.34
1994-95 (RE)	1719.00

(b) Food subsidy is released/paid to the Food Corporation of India for reibursement of (i) the difference between economic cost of foodgrains and their issue prices *viz.* consumer subsidy; and (ii) carrying cost of buffer stocks. Since 1992-93 Government has released/paid the follwing amounts to the F.C.I. as food subsidy:—

Year	Rs./Crores
1992-93	2,785
1993-94	5,537

In the Budget for 1994-95, a provision of Rs.5,100 crore has been made on this account. Out of this Rs. 4000 crores (including Rs. 574 crores on sugar) have so far been released towards food subsidy.

(c) Though the liftings of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System have declined due to easy availability of the same in the open market, Central Government has been making earnest endeavours to increase their off-take in the RPDS areas comprising of economically disadvantaged blocks all over the country for the benefit of poorer consumers.

Directions to FCI for Launching a Special Scheme to Procure Wheat

2058. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have directed the Food Corporation of India to launch a special scheme to procure wheat at higher rate from farmers who will sell their produce in October; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme including the increased rates?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of Sugar Mills in Orissa

2059. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills set up in Orissa;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to promote cooperative sugar mills;